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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/262,986	03/05/1999	SHANKAR S. NARAYAN	081862.P133	1274

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11/18/2003

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EXAMINER

SINGH, RAMNANDAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2644

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/262,986

Applicant(s)

NARAYAN ET AL.

Examiner

Dr. Ramnandan Singh

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13,15,17-19 and 24-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13,15,17-19 and 24-27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28,30 and 31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29, 32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 03 September 2003 with respect to amended Claims 1, 11 and 15 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Further, the above applicant's response is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 9, it recites "For support, see the specification as filed, p. 41, last paragraph, to p. 16." This is in error. Replace the term "p. 41" with "p. 14".

Appropriate correction is required.

Status of Claims

2. Claims 1, 11 and 15 are amended.
Claims 14, 16, 20-23 are cancelled.
New Claims 24-32 are added.
Claims 1-13, 15, 17-19, 24-32 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 28, 30-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either Randers [DE 41 26 815 A1] or Fujimoto [JP Application No. HEI 9[1997]-81199].

As per Claim 28:

Randers teaches a voice-decoding system 14 with DTMF regenerator 15 and method for regenerating a DTMF signal, wherein the regenerator 15 contains a detector 17 and a generator 18. As shown in Fig. 2, the generator 18 comprises a DTMF tone generator 9, a delay buffer 5 and a multiplexer 10, which outputs a DTMF tone when a DTMF signal has been detected, otherwise it outputs the decoded signal 19 [Page 4]. The DTMG generator 18 compensates for a processing and transmission delay so that voice-distorted DTMF tones are not missed by a connected device. Fig. 5 illustrates a DTMF tone generator, wherein the output of this DTMF generator and the input signal are input into a multiplexer and the output of the multiplexer is controlled by the detected character DD [Pages 7-8]. Thus, it is a dual stage process.

Fujimoto teaches a voice grade information transmitting device shown in Fig. 1, comprising a voice grade input terminal (11), a high efficiency voice coder (12) that can **compress** (or delay) voice signals, a DTMF detector (13) for detecting non-voice signals, a DTMF code pattern memory (14) for storing the data obtained by

compressing the voice signals with high efficiency voice coder (12) in advance, a switch (15) for selecting and outputting either the data obtained by compressing the voice signals or the data obtained by compressing the non-voice signals [Page 4]. Fig. 3 shows another embodiment of this invention. Further, in case of regular voice signals, terminals a and d of switch (21) are connected to each other to output the extended data sent from high efficiency voice decoder (17) to voice grade signal output terminal (22). On the other hand, when a DTMF coded pattern is detected, terminals b and d are connected to each other to output the DTMF signal output from DTMF generator(20). Thus, it is a dual-stage process.

Regarding Claims 30-31, both Randers and Fujimoto treat the non-voice signals as DTMF signals as shown above. Inherently, the telephonic system codes speech at 8 kbit/sec or less.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-13, 15, 17-19, 24-27 are. allowed.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Independent Claims 1, 5, 11, 15, 24 identify the uniquely distinct feature of digital signal processing of voice and tone signals to detect tone signals in decoded data from a speech coding process. The process comprises inserting a **first delay sequence** of data values into an output data sequence, and a **second delay sequence** into the output data sequence in response to determining that the non-voice signal is likely to be

in the input sequence. Claims 2-4 are dependent from independent Claim 1; claims 6-10 dependent from Claim 5; Claims 12-13 dependent from Claim 11; claims 17-19 from claim 15; and claims 25-27 dependent from claim 24.

6. Claims 29 and 32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 29 is objected because it inserts a **first delay sequence** of data values into an output data sequence, and a **second delay sequence** into a path taken by the of input data.

Claim 32 is also objected because it is dependent from Claim 29.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Ramnandan Singh whose telephone number is (703)308-6270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(8:00-4:30).

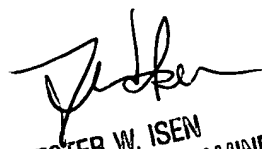
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forester Isen can be reached on (703)-305-4386. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9314 for regular communications and (703)872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-0377.

Dr. Ramnandan Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2644



November 10, 2003



FORESTER W. ISEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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